

A NEW SPECIES OF HOYA (ASCLEPIADACEAE) FROM SARAWAK

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Hoya meredithii Green sp. nov.

Species certe Hoya globulosa Hooker f. ex Indo-China affinis a qua differt foliis multo magni et inflorescentia semiglobosa non globulosa.

Vitis terrestis vel epiphytica ramosa volubilis, ramis filiformibus, laxe foliatis, foliis patulis margo undulato obovatis apice acuminato basibus obtusis subauriculatis duris rigidis 7.5 - 18 cm. lato 12 - 30 cm. longo, glandi una in basi, petiolo crasso duro torquero 2.3 - 3 cm longo, venis pinnatiformibus insignibus obscuris viridibus venis secundis 6 - 8 ultimis reticulatis, cymi umbelliformis multifloribus, pedunculo 2 mm diametro 2.5 - 3 cm. longo perpetuis, pedicilli recti aequali, calycibus 5-fidis 5 mm diametro, foliolis calycis acutis triangularibus glabris, corolla 5-fida patulis vel reflexis 1 cm. diametro, foliolis ovatis acutis flaviviridibus, corona 5-fida 5 mm. diametro dorso plano folioso carnosofusiformi extus apice acuto intus apice obtuso viridi-albo, pollinis duobus minimis oblongoideis translatoribus brevissimus flexis, retinaculo minuto. Follicum ignotum.

Hoya meredithii Green sp. nov.

This species appears to be related to Hoya globulosa Hooker f. but differs in its much larger ovate leaves and umbel that is hemispheric rather than globose.

Epiphytic or terrestrial, branching vine with flexuous, filiform stems, sparsely rooting along stems; loosely, oppositely leaved (sometimes lacking the twin of a pair); leaf open, with undulate margins, ovate with acuminate tip, obtuse base, subauriculate, with one large gland, hard and rigid blade; 7.5 to 18 cm. wide by 12 to 30 cm. long; petiole hard and thick, 8 mm. in diameter by 2.5 - 3 cm long, twisted; leaf venation pinnate, with 8 - 12 secondary veins ending in reticulations, showy, all veins dark green against a light blade; cyme umbellate, with many pale chartreuse flowers, 1 cm. in diameter; peduncle persistent, 10 cm. long by 2 mm. in diameter; pedicels straight, equal in length creating a hemispheric umbel; calyx lobes 5, 1 1/2 mm, acutely triangular, glabrous; corolla 5 parted, lobed to half the depth, lobes flat to reflexed, ovate; corona 5 parted, fleshy, flat across the top, corolla lobes spindle shaped with inner tips blunt and outer tips acute, greenish white; pollinia paired, in 5 sets, compressed, with small flexed trans-

lators. Follicle and seed not seen.

Blooms predominately in April-May-June with the flowers lasting about 4 days. Flowers have a pleasant fragrance and exude nectar. In vegetative characters this plant resembles and can be confused with some of the tropical apocynaceous vines.

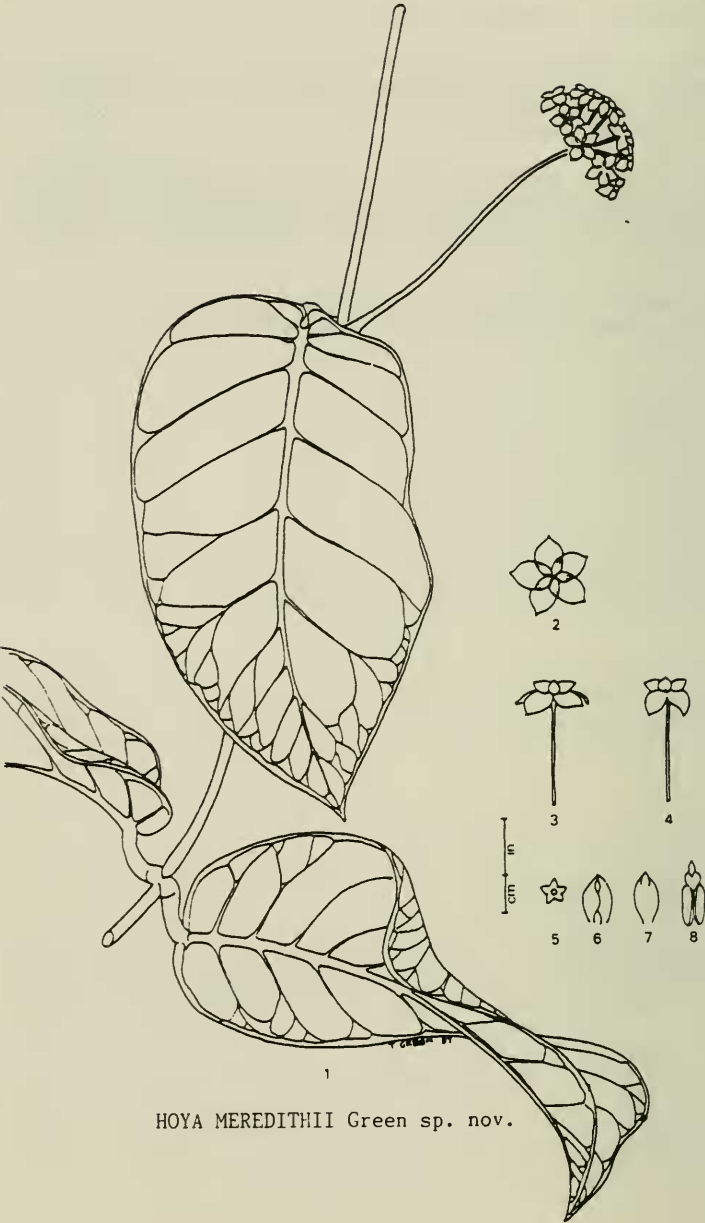
TYPE: Bau, Sarawak, Eastern Malaysia, elevation 35 m, on calcareous soils of the open, lowland forest. Not flowering July 1980. Hort. material, T. Green 'Meredith 80-05', Wallace 851980: Type Bishop Museum, Duplicate Britton Herbarium, New York Botanical Garden.

This handsomely leaved species is named for York Meredith, the plantsman, of Dee Why, Australia who discovered it.

FIGURE LEGEND

Hoya meredithii Green Sp. Nov.

Fig.1 General Growth X1, Fig.2 Flower (dorsal view) X2, Figs.3-4 Flowers (lateral view), Fig.5 Calyx X2, Fig.6 Coronal Lobe (ventral view) X6, Fig.7 Coronal Lobe (dorsal view), Fig.8 Pollinia X20.



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